

**RESOLUTION**

**The List of Religious Holidays Permitting Pupil Absence from School**

**WHEREAS**, according to N.J.S.A. 18A:36-14 through 16 and N.J.A.C. 6A:32-8.3(j);, regarding pupil absence from school because of religious holidays, the Commissioner of Education, with the approval of the State Board of Education, is charged with the responsibility of prescribing such rules and regulations as may be necessary to carry out the purpose of the law; and

**WHEREAS**, the law provides that:

1. Any pupil absent from school because of a religious holiday may not be deprived of any award or of eligibility or opportunity to compete for any award because of such absence;
2. Pupils who miss a test or examination because of absence on a religious holiday must be given the right to take an alternate test or examination;
3. To be entitled to the privileges set forth above, the pupil must present a written excuse signed by a parent or person standing in place of a parent;
4. Any absence because of a religious holiday must be recorded in the school register or in any group or class attendance record as an excused absence;
5. Such absence must NOT be recorded on any transcript or application or employment form or on any similar form; and
6. The Commissioner, with the approval of the State Board of Education, is required to:
  - (a) prescribe such rules and regulations as may be necessary to carry out the purposes of this act; and

- (b) prepare a list of religious holidays on which it shall be mandatory to excuse a pupil. The list, however, is to be a minimum list. Boards of education, at their discretion, may add other days to the list for the schools of their districts; and

**WHEREAS**, the district board of education has the right to add any bona fide religious holiday to the list for its own schools; now therefore be it,

**RESOLVED** that the State Board of Education adopts the following list of religious holidays for the 2007-2008 school year:

<b>September 1</b>	Day of Ascension (Isra and Miraj) (Islamic) First Consecration of the Guru Granth Sahib ji, the Sikh Scripture
<b>September 7</b>	His Holiness Sakya Trizin's birth date (Buddhist)
<b>September 7</b>	Ganesha Chaturthi (Hindu)
<b>September 13-14</b>	Rosh Hashanah (Jewish New Year)
<b>September 13</b>	Ramadan begins
<b>September 14</b>	The Exaltation of the Holy Cross (Eastern, Greek, Russian Orthodox)
<b>September 19</b>	The Night of Power 9 (Laylatul Qadr) (Islamic)
<b>September 22</b>	Yom Kippur (Day of Atonement) (Jewish)
<b>September 23</b>	Feast of Trumpets (World Wide Church of God, United Church of God and Global Church of God)
<b>September 27-28</b>	Sukkot (Feast of Tabernacles) (Jewish)
<b>October 2</b>	Day of Atonement (World Wide Church of God, United Church of God and Global Church of God)
<b>October 4</b>	Shemini Atzeret (Eighth Day of Sukkot) (Jewish)
<b>October 5</b>	Simhat Torah (Rejoicing of the Law) (Jewish)
<b>October 7-13</b>	First Day through Seventh Day Feast of Tabernacles (World Wide Church of God, United Church of God and Global Church of God)
<b>October 13</b>	Eid-al-Fitr (Islamic)/ <b>September 30 - Dussera</b> (Hindu)
<b>October 14</b>	Last Great Day (World Wide Church of God, United Church of God and Global Church of God)
<b>October 20</b>	Birth of the Bab (Baha'i)
<b>October 20</b>	Joint-Sovereignty of Guru Granth and Guru Panth declared to Guide the Sikh people
<b>October 20</b>	Guruship of Guru Granth Sahib ji declared by 10 <sup>th</sup> Guru (Sikh)
<b>October 20 - 23</b>	Deepavali (Hindu)
<b>October 31</b>	Reformation Day (Protestant, Lutheran)
<b>November 1</b>	All Saints Day (Roman Catholic, Protestant & Lutheran)
<b>November 2</b>	All Souls Day (Roman Catholic)
<b>November 12</b>	Birth of the Baha'u'llah (Baha'i)
<b>November 15</b>	Guru Nanak Dev ji's birth date (Sikh)
<b>November 24</b>	Guru Tegh Bahadur dev ji's Martyrdom (Sikh)
<b>December 5</b>	First Day of Hanukkah (Jewish)

<b>December 8</b>	Feast of the Immaculate Conception (Roman Catholic)
<b>December 8</b>	Bodhi Day (Buddhist)
<b>December 20</b>	Eid-al-Adha (Day of Sacrifice) (Islamic)
<b>December 25</b>	Christmas (Roman Catholic, Protestant, Eastern, Greek and Russian Orthodox)
<b>December 26</b>	Kwanzaa
<b>January 1</b>	New Year's Day
<b>January 5</b>	Gukru Gobind Singh ji's birth date (Sikh)
<b>January 6</b>	Feast of the Epiphany (Roman Catholic, Eastern, Greek and Russian Orthodox)
<b>January 6</b>	Christmas (Armenian)
<b>January 10</b>	Muharram (New Year) (Islamic)
<b>January 14</b>	Makara Sankranti (Hindu)
<b>January 19</b>	Day of Ashurah (10 <sup>th</sup> Day) (Islamic)
<b>January 22</b>	Mahayana New Year (Buddhist)
<b>February 5</b>	Shrove Tuesday
<b>February 6</b>	Ash Wednesday (Roman Catholic, Protestant)
<b>February 7</b>	New Year (Chinese, Korean and Vietnamese)
<b>February 19</b>	Bright Monday (Eastern, Greek and Russian Orthodox)
<b>March 4</b>	Holi (Hindu)
<b>March 6</b>	Maha Shivaratri (Hindu)
<b>March 10</b>	Lent (Eastern Orthodox)
<b>March 19</b>	Chandramana Yugadi
<b>March 20</b>	Holy Thursday (Roman Catholic, Protestant)
<b>March 21</b>	Birthday of the Prophet Muhammad (Islamic)
<b>March 21</b>	Feast of Naw-Ruz (Baha'i and Iranian New Year, also Persian New Year and Heritage Day)
<b>March 21</b>	Good Friday (Roman Catholic, Protestant, Lutheran, Eastern, Greek and Russian Orthodox))
<b>March 21</b>	Purim (Jewish)
<b>March 21</b>	Sikh New Year/Holla Mohalla
<b>March 27</b>	Rama Navami (Hindu)
<b>March 22</b>	Lord's Evening Meal
<b>March 30</b>	Chandramana Yugardi (Hindu)
<b>April 2</b>	Passover (World Wide Church of God, United Church of God and Global Church of God)
<b>April 3</b>	First Day of Feast of Unleavened Bread or Passover (World Wide Church of God, United Church of God and Global Church of God)
<b>April 6-14</b>	Rama Navami (Hindu)
<b>April 14</b>	Souramana Yugadi (Hindu)
<b>April 14</b>	Khalsa formation day and Vaisakhi
<b>April 20-21</b>	First Two Days of Pesach (Passover) (Jewish)
<b>April 21</b>	First Day of Ridvan (Baha'i)
<b>April 24</b>	Memorial Day (Armenian)
<b>April 25</b>	The 11 <sup>th</sup> Panchen Lama's birthday (Buddhist)
<b>April 27</b>	Good Friday (Lutheran, Eastern, Greek and Russian Orthodox)
<b>April 26 -27</b>	Last Two Days of Pesach (Passover) (Jewish)

<b>May 1</b>	Ascension Day (Eastern Orthodox, Greek and Russian Orthodox, Roman Catholic & Protestant)
<b>May 2</b>	The 12 <sup>th</sup> Day of Ridvan (Baha'i)
<b>May 2</b>	Buddha's birthday (Buddhist)
<b>May 23</b>	Declaration of the Bab (Baha'i)
<b>May 27</b>	Day of Pentecost (World Wide Church of God, United Church of God and Global Church of God)
<b>May 29</b>	Ascension of Baha'u'llah (Baha'i)
<b>June 9-10</b>	Shavuot (Feast of Weeks) 2 days (Jewish)
<b>June 16</b>	Guru Arjun Dev ji's Martyrdom (Sikh)
<b>June 26</b>	His Holiness the 17 <sup>th</sup> Gyalawa Karmapa's (Ugyen Trinley Dorje) birth date (Buddhist)

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